

Summary of Results from the 2002-2003 Somerville Middle School Health Survey

Submitted to:

The Somerville Public Schools
The Cambridge Health Alliance
The Somerville Health Department

Submitted by:

Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc.
21-C Cambridge Street
Burlington, MA 01803
781-270-6613

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BACKGROUND

REPORT FORMAT

In April of 2003, 1,098 Somerville middle school students (grades 6-8) took part in the 2002-2003 Somerville Middle School Health Survey. The survey was developed by the Somerville Public Schools, the Cambridge Health Alliance, and the Somerville Health Department. Based on surveys such as the *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, *Monitoring the Future*, *Profiles of Student Life – Attitudes and Behaviors*, and the *Survey of Student Resources and Assets*, the questionnaire was designed to gather information on some of the important issues facing youth in Somerville, such as substance use, violence and safety, and stress. A similar survey of Somerville High School students was conducted during the 2001-2002 school year.

This report summarizes results from the Somerville Middle School Health Survey. It is designed to provide an overview of key survey data, focusing on two main themes: (1) What do the data from this survey tell us about the challenges facing youth in our community? And (2) Are there any important sub-population differences among respondents (such as by gender or grade)? The summary presents an overview of findings grouped according to the following themes: Substance Use, Substance Use Related Issues, Violence and Safety, Worry and Suicidality, and Sexual Behavior and Harassment. The main results in each section are illustrated using charts that are complemented by supplementary data or information. An appendix containing selected data follows the main results.

WHO CONDUCTED THE SURVEY?

The survey was conducted by the Somerville Public Schools and the Somerville Cares About Prevention coalition in collaboration with Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc. (SSRE), a non-profit social science research firm located in Burlington, Massachusetts.

HOW AND WHEN WAS THE SURVEY CONDUCTED?

The survey was administered as a questionnaire in April of 2003 to all Somerville public school students in grades 6 through 8. The number of respondents in each grade is as follows:

| 6 th | 7 th | 8 th | Unknown | TOTAL |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-------|
| 361 | 389 | 336 | 12 | 1,098 |

School administrators set aside approximately 30-40 minutes for students to complete the survey. The attending classroom teacher was responsible for passing out the questionnaires and maintaining order in the classroom. In addition to English, the survey was translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian.

WHAT DID THE SURVEY ASK ABOUT?

The survey focuses on issues ranging from demographic and background items (e.g., gender, age), to student substance use (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, other drugs), to other issues related to student health such as suicide, violence and safety, sexual behavior, and dietary behavior.

VALIDITY

There is a good deal of research about the ways in which students respond to surveys and whether they tell the truth. This work indicates that student survey results are reasonably accurate provided that student participation is voluntary and that the respondents cannot be identified. The Somerville Middle School Health Survey met these conditions. The voluntary nature of the survey was explained to both students and their parents. Prior to the survey, parents were given the opportunity to opt their child(ren) out of the survey. In addition, students could choose not to participate or to skip any items. The confidential nature of the survey was highlighted in the questionnaire instructions that asked students *not* to put their name on the questionnaire and explained that their answers would not be viewed by anyone who knows them.

Two other steps were taken to increase validity. First, each questionnaire was reviewed to identify any on which students obviously provided frivolous answers. Such questionnaires were omitted from all analyses. Second, analyses were conducted to test for the reasonableness of responses and for the consistency of responses across related items. When inconsistent responses were identified, the entire case or the suspect items for that case were treated as missing data in all subsequent analyses. These two procedures identified few problems.

The validity of the survey is also bolstered by using a questionnaire based largely upon existing instruments such as the *Youth Risk Behavior Survey* (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), *Monitoring the Future* (University of Michigan), and *Profiles of Student Life – Attitudes and Behaviors* and *Survey of Student Resources and Assets* (America's Promise and Search Institute). These standardized instruments have been thoroughly tested and administered in large-scale research studies (see Brener, N., Collins, J., Kann, L., Warren, C., & Williams, B. [1995]. "Reliability of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey Questionnaire." *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 141, 575-580).

NON-RESPONDENTS

It is important to keep in mind that the survey results can be generalized only to students who were present when the survey was administered. The results may not reflect responses that might have been obtained from students who were absent on the day that the survey was administered.

TRENDS

Trend comparisons can provide extremely useful information on whether certain behaviors have improved, worsened, or stayed the same over time. In fact, it is best to repeat a survey such as this at regular intervals in order to track changes over time. When possible, comparisons can be made to similar surveys administered in Somerville.

COMPARATIVE DATA

A limitation of such data is that it is difficult to compare results from Somerville to results from other communities. Making comparisons to other communities is quite complicated – surveys are not exactly alike, the populations used may differ in unknown ways, the timing of the surveys may vary, and so on. Although it is natural to want to compare to other communities, a great deal can be learned simply by looking at Somerville data. The most useful comparisons are made by looking at Somerville over time.

When surveying high school students in grades 9 through 12, limited comparisons can be made to Massachusetts as a whole since the Massachusetts Department of Education administers the *Youth Risk Behavior Survey* to a sample of Massachusetts students every two years. Massachusetts does

not, however, administer a statewide survey of middle school students and there are few other large-scale surveys of middle school students.

The *Monitoring the Future Survey* (MTF), administered annually each Spring by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, does include selected comparable items related to 8th grade substance use (the survey is not administered to students in grades 6 or 7). When possible, substance use results for Somerville 8th graders will be compared to national 8th grade results using the most recent available MTF data. The most current data are from the 2002 MTF which was administered in the Spring of 2002. It is important to note that this survey was administered one year prior to the Somerville survey.

WHO HAS THE PROBLEM?

Although this survey was administered to middle school students, this does not mean that the problems addressed are confined solely to youth. In fact, national studies of substance use show that rates of use are higher among young adults than adolescents. It is also important to keep in mind that this survey is designed primarily to assess risky behaviors and does not address the many positive aspects of adolescent life.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

Data on health behavior among youth is typically collected in public schools because it is comparatively simple to collect data from what is essentially a "captive" audience. The fact that data on youth are collected in schools, however, does not mean that the schools bear the sole or even the largest responsibility for the risky behaviors revealed in these surveys. Issues such as substance use and violence are not school problems; they are community problems that require the attention of all community members and organizations.

SUBSTANCE USE

LIFETIME SUBSTANCE USE

Lifetime Substance Use – Overall

Thirty percent (30%) of Somerville middle school students reported that they had used *alcohol* at least once in their lifetime (other than a few sips), while 10% reported they had used *any drug* (cocaine, marijuana, LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin), and 9% reported that they had *smoked cigarettes regularly* (at least one cigarette every day for 30 days) (see Figure 1).

Lifetime Substance Use – By Grade

The percentage of students who reported ever using each of these substances increased with age/grade, peaking in grade 8: 46% of 8th graders reported ever drinking alcohol, 11% ever smoking cigarettes regularly, and 19% ever using any drug (see Figure 2).

Lifetime Substance Use – National Comparisons

The rate of lifetime *alcohol* use among Somerville 8th graders (46%) was similar to the national 8th grade rate (47%) (2002 Monitoring the Future Survey). The Somerville 8th grade rate of lifetime *illegal drug use* (19%) was substantively lower than the national 8th grade rate (25%) (2002 Monitoring the Future Survey). National data on *regular cigarette smoking* are not available. See Figure 3 for details.

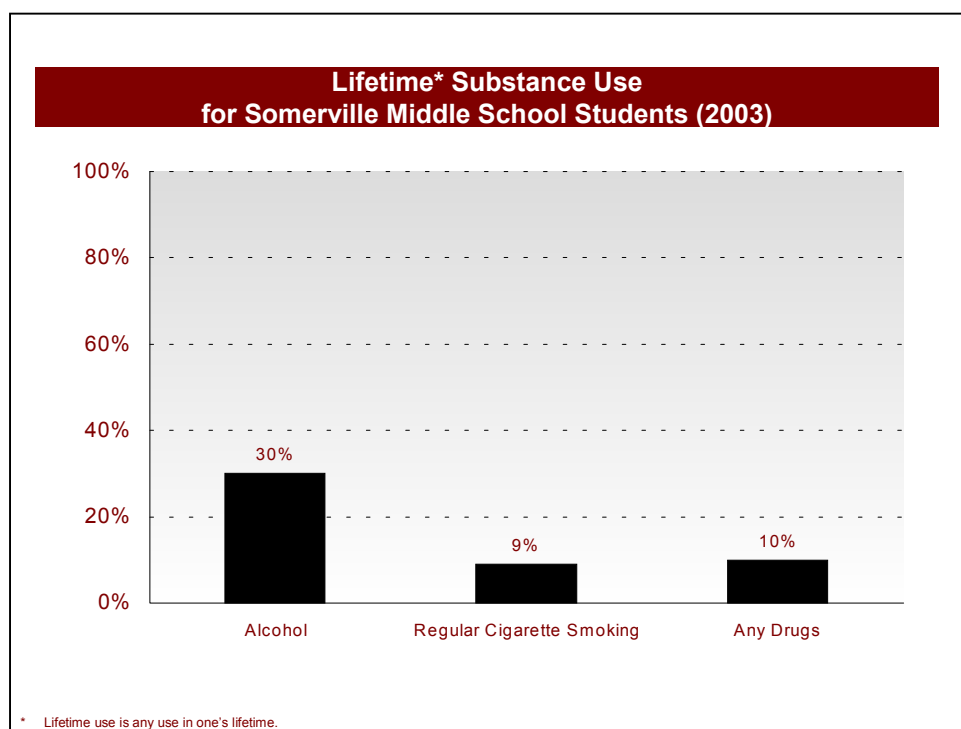


Figure 1

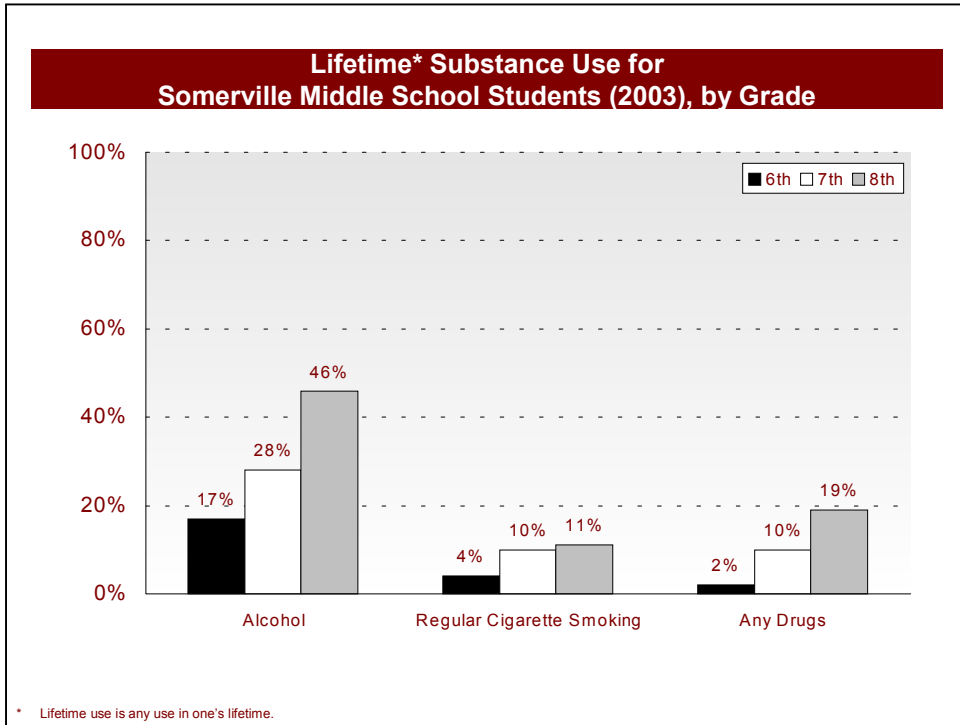


Figure 2

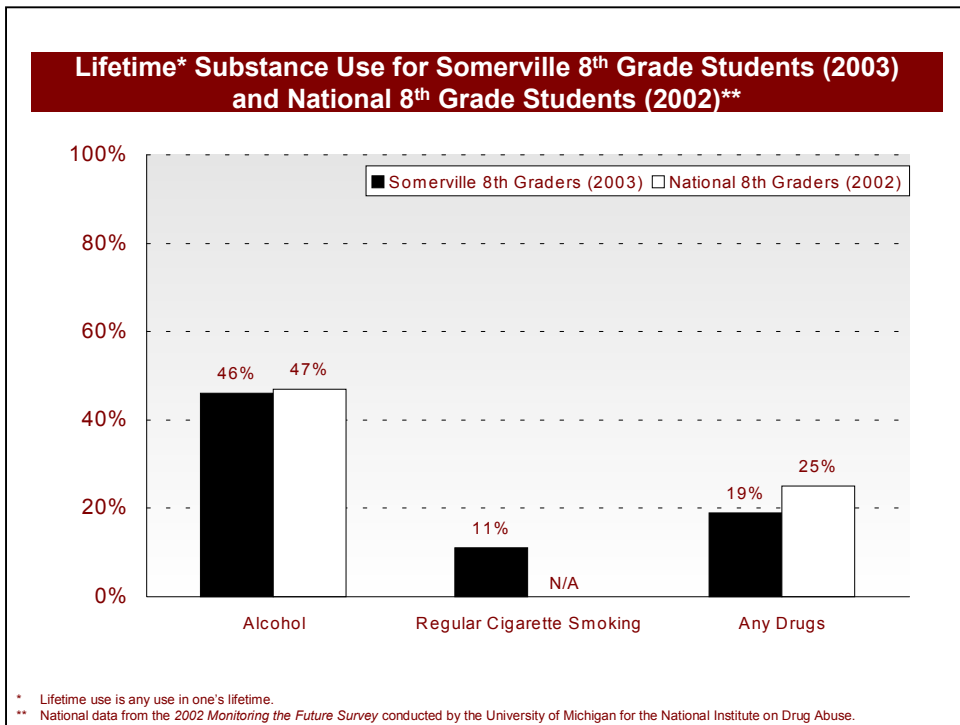


Figure 3

CURRENT SUBSTANCE USE

Current Substance Use – Overall

Current substance use was defined in the survey as use in the 30 days prior to the survey. Alcohol is the most popular substance among Somerville middle school students, with 15% reporting current alcohol use. This was followed by use of marijuana (6%), inhalants (6%), cigarettes (5%), other illegal drugs (2%), chewing tobacco (1%), and cocaine (1%) (see Figure 4).

Current Substance Use – By Gender

Female students were more likely than males to report current use of alcohol (18% females vs. 13% males), cigarettes (6% vs. 3%), and inhalants (7% vs. 6%). Males were more likely to report using marijuana (7% males vs. 5% females), cocaine (2% vs. 1%), other illegal drugs (2% vs. 1%), and chewing tobacco (1% vs. 0%). See Figure 5 for details on differences by gender.

Current Substance Use – By Grade

With the exceptions of chewing tobacco and inhalants, current substance use increased with age/grade, peaking in grade 8: 25% of 8th graders reported current alcohol use, 13% current marijuana use, and 7% current cigarette use (see Figure 6).

Current Substance Use – National Comparisons

The rates of current *alcohol*, *marijuana*, *cocaine*, and *inhalant* use among Somerville 8th graders were slightly higher than the national 8th grade rates: alcohol (25% Somerville vs. 20% National), marijuana (13% vs. 8%), cocaine (2% vs. 1%), inhalants (5% vs. 4%) (2002 Monitoring the Future Survey). Current tobacco use rates, however, were lower among Somerville 8th graders: cigarettes (7% Somerville vs. 11% National), chewing tobacco (1% vs. 3%) (2002 Monitoring the Future Survey). See Figure 7 for details.

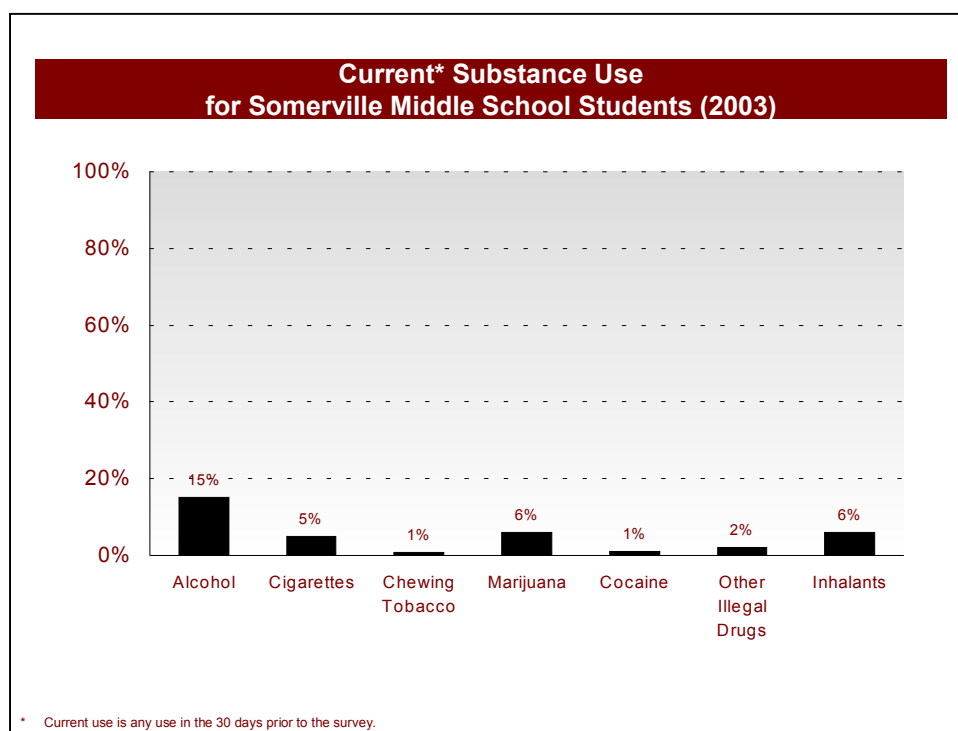


Figure 4

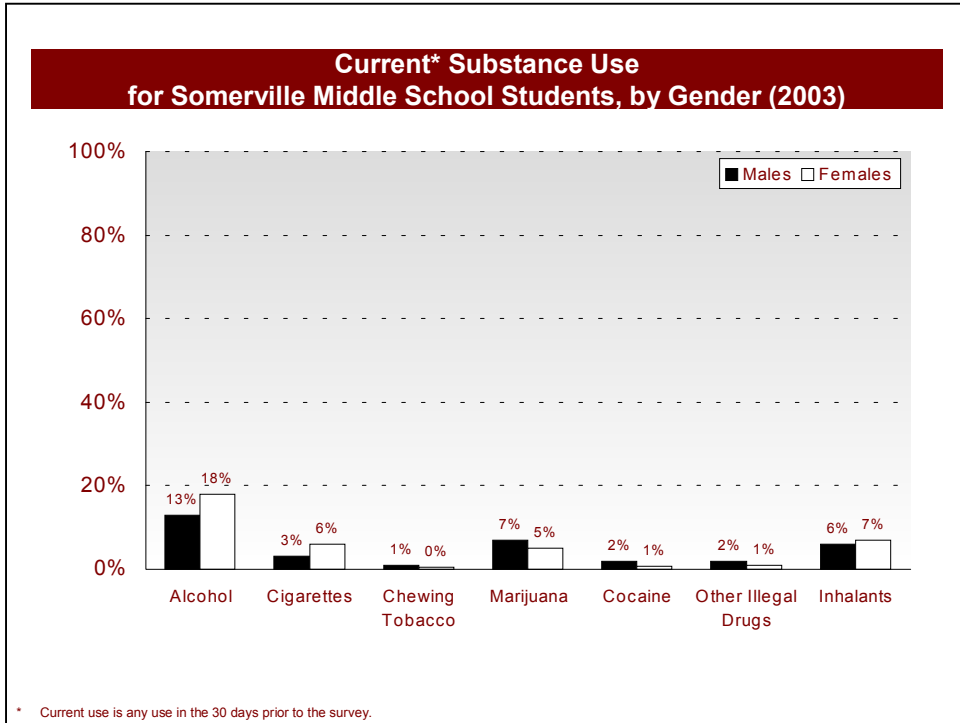


Figure 5

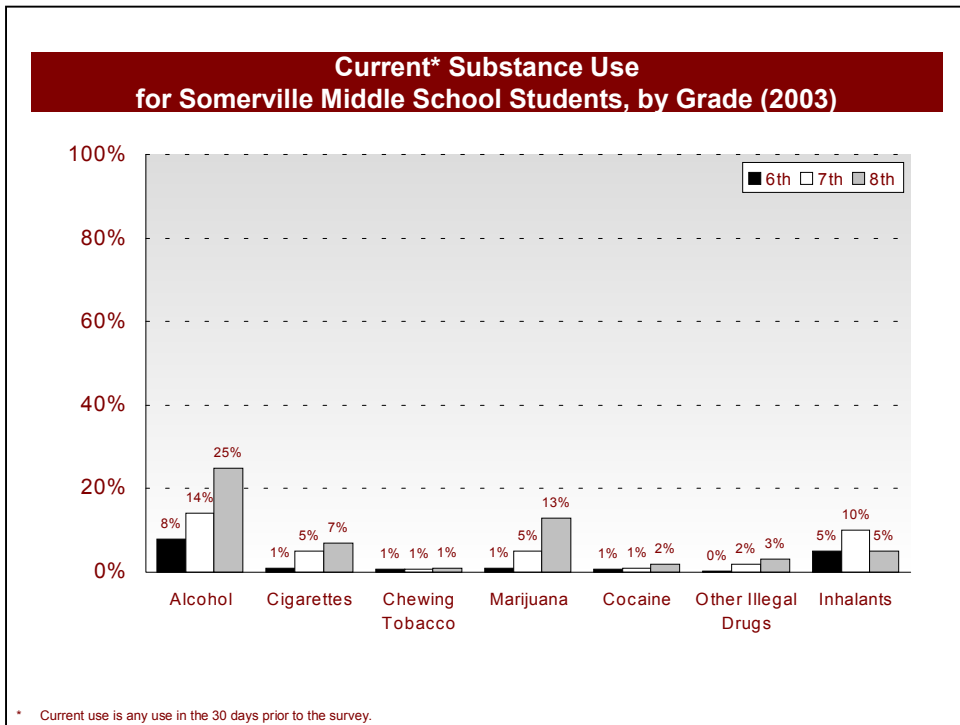
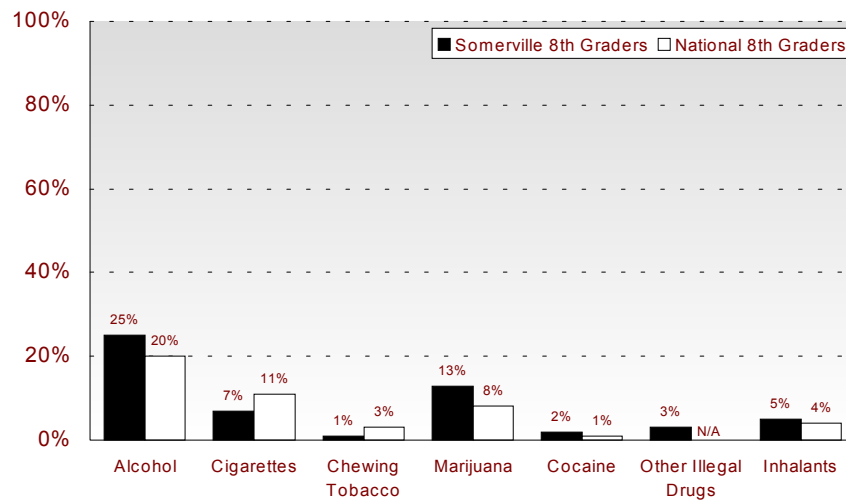


Figure 6

Current* Substance Use for Somerville 8th Grade Students (2003) and National 8th Grade Students (2002)**



* Current use is any use in the 30 days prior to the survey.

** National data from the 2002 *Monitoring the Future* Survey conducted by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Figure 7

SUBSTANCE USE RELATED ISSUES

RECEIPT OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE RISKS OF SUBSTANCE USE

A greater percentage of Somerville middle school students reported receiving information about the risks of substance use *in school* than *from their parents*. Approximately three-quarters of students reported receiving information about the risks of alcohol use (74%), tobacco use (71%), and drug use (76%) in school, while just over half reported receiving such information from their parents (alcohol use was not asked about, 58% for tobacco use, and 54% for drug use) (see Figure 8).

PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL OF SUBSTANCE USE

The majority of Somerville middle school students reported that their parents would be “very upset” if they used alcohol, cigarettes, or marijuana (see Figure 9). These percentages, however, decreased with age/grade, particularly in relation to alcohol use – the percentage of students who reported that their parents would be “very upset” if they used alcohol occasionally decreased from 83% in 6th grade to 77% in 7th grade and 71% in 8th grade (see Figure 10).

FRIENDS’ DISAPPROVAL OF SUBSTANCE USE

Respondents were also asked to assess whether their friends would approve or disapprove if they engaged in substance use. Smaller proportions of students reported that their friends would “not approve” of their substance use (see Figure 11). For example, 63% of respondents reported that their friends would “not approve” if they used alcohol occasionally, compared to 77% who reported that their parents would be “very upset” with such use. These proportions decreased substantially by age/grade. The percentage of students who reported that their friends would “not approve” if they used alcohol occasionally decreased from 77% in 6th grade to 62% in 7th grade and 50% in 8th grade (see Figure 12). Figure 13 shows that as perception of friends’ disapproval of alcohol use decreases with age/grade, current use increases over the same period of time.

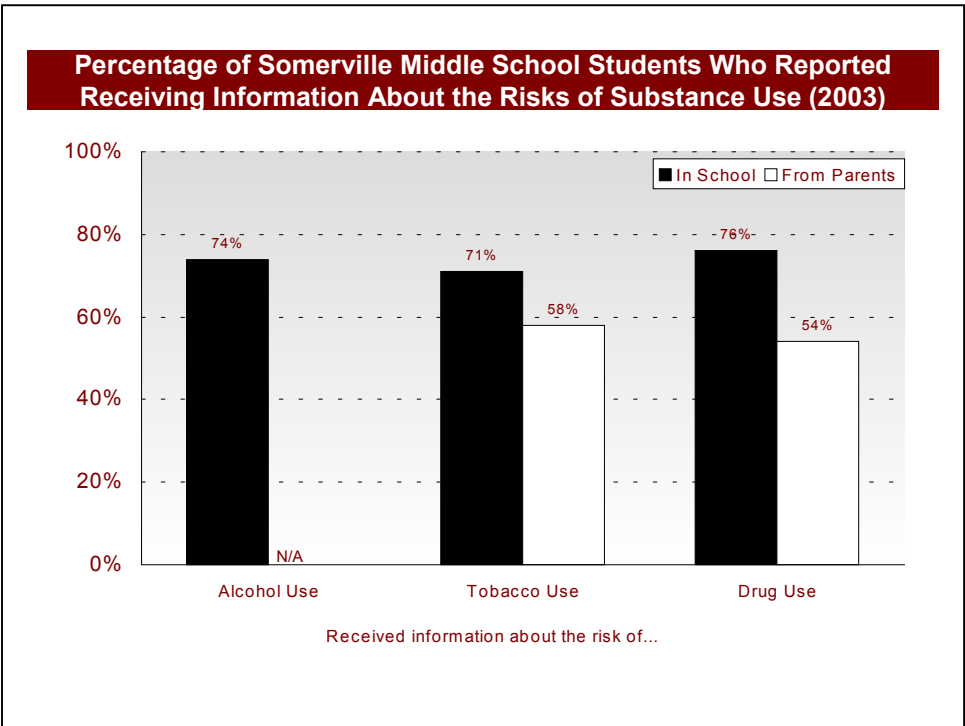


Figure 8

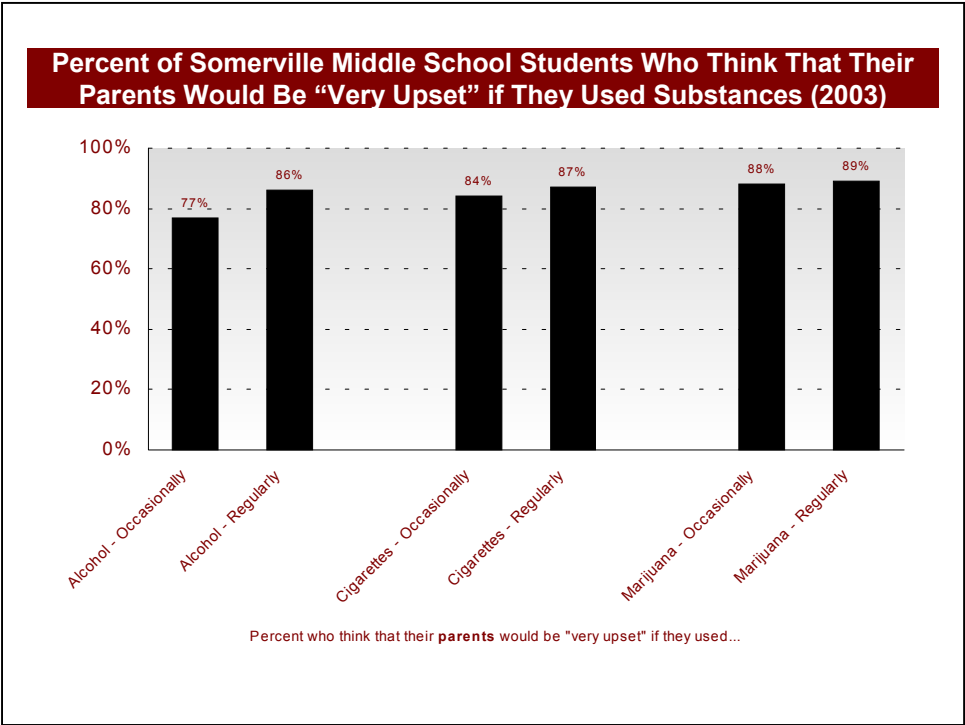


Figure 9

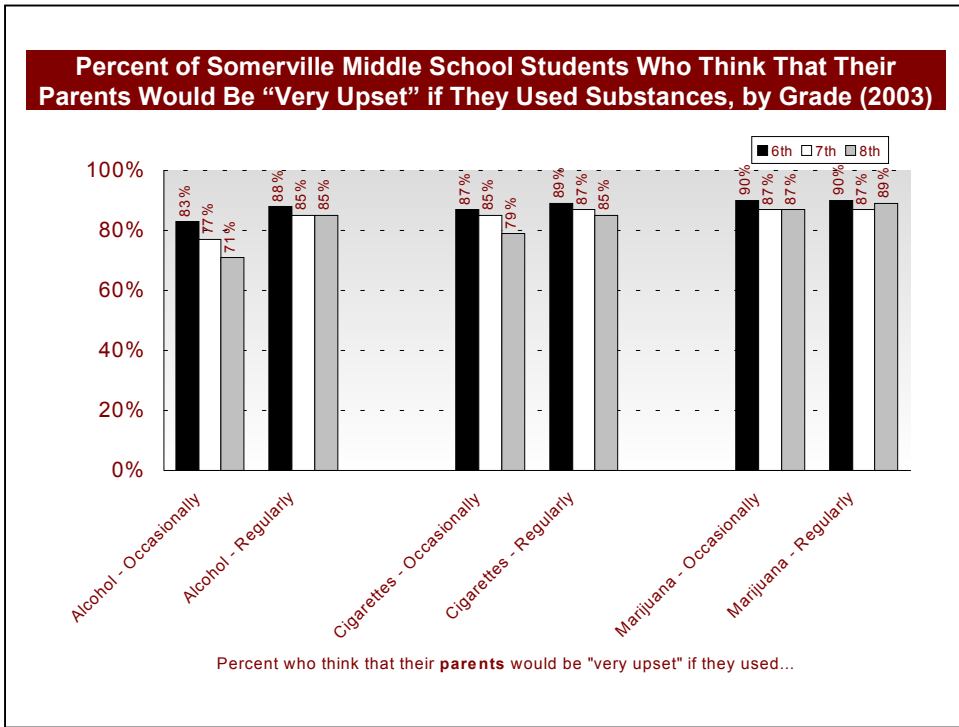


Figure 10

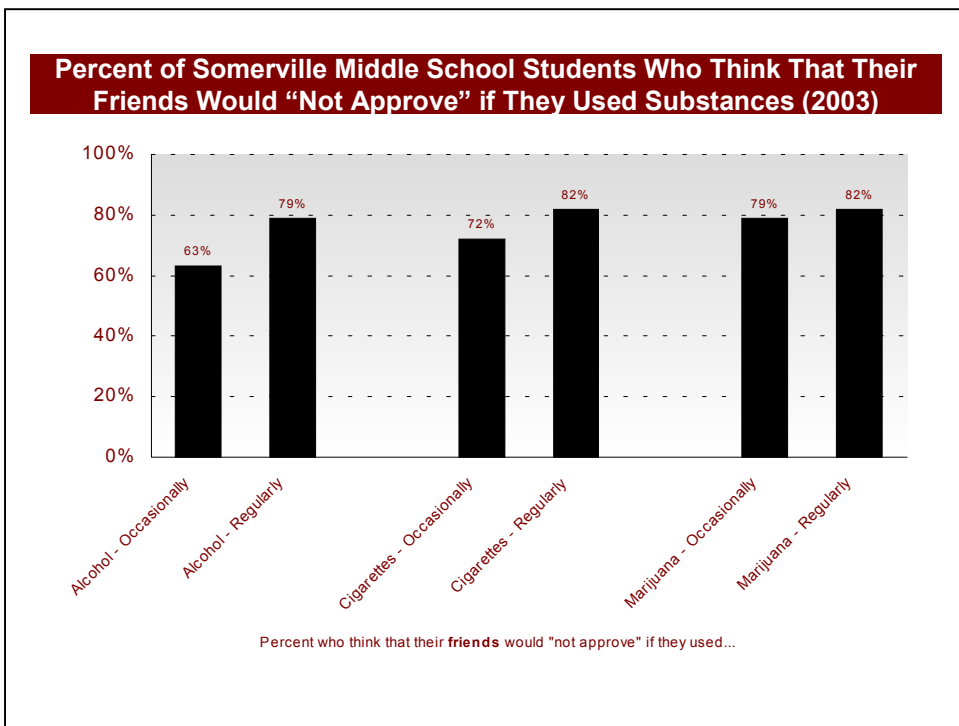


Figure 11

Percent of Somerville Middle School Students Who Think That Their Friends Would “Not Approve” if They Used Substances, by Grade (2003)

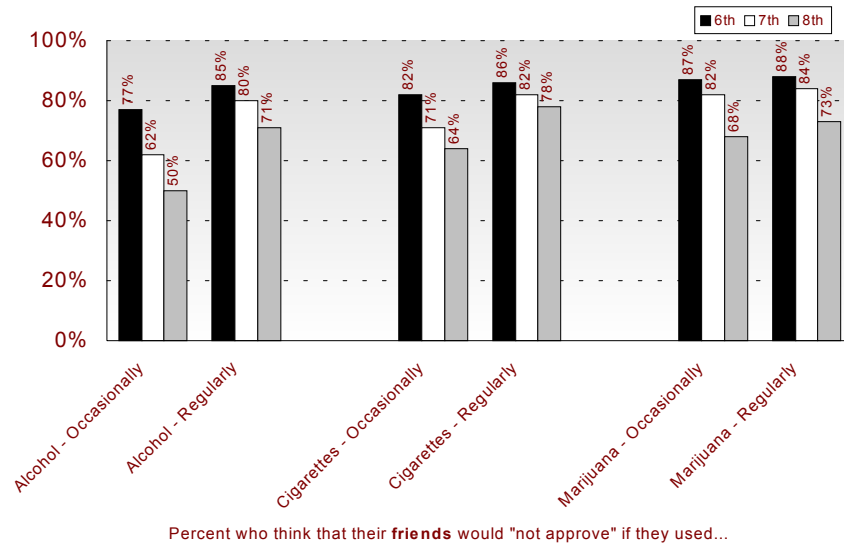


Figure 12

The Relationship Among Somerville Middle School Students Between Perception of Friends' Disapproval of Use and Current Alcohol Use (2003)

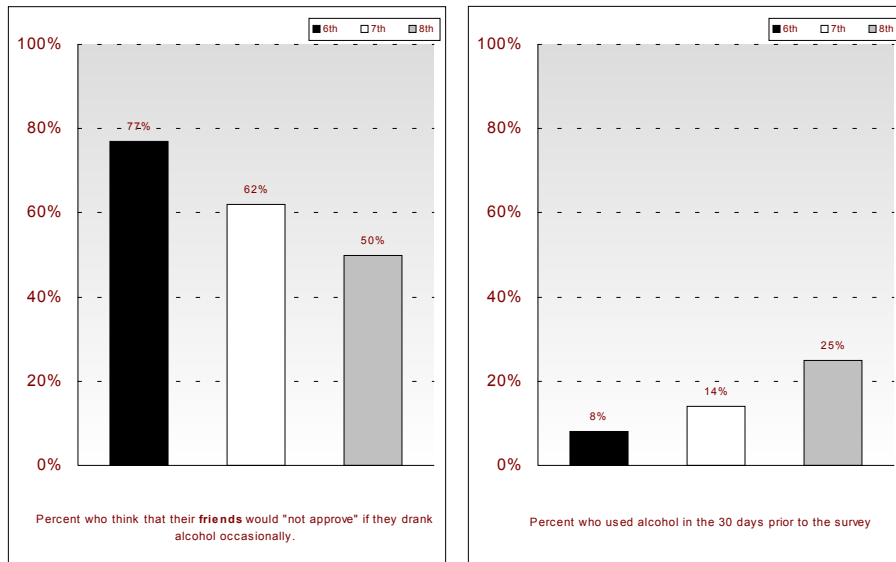


Figure 13

VIOLENCE AND SAFETY

GENERAL VIOLENCE AND SAFETY EXPERIENCES/ISSUES

Respondents were asked a number of questions about violence or safety related issues that they had experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey. As Figure 14 illustrates, 38% of respondents indicated that were in a physical fight in the 12 months prior to the survey, while 6% were threatened with a knife or gun, 5% were hurt by a family member, and 4% were hurt by a non-family member.

SCHOOL SAFETY ISSUES

Respondents were also asked about additional school safety issues. Some of these questions asked about experiences on school property while others included respondents' experiences on the way to or from school. As Figure 14 illustrates, 33% of respondents reported having their property stolen or damaged on school property, 13% being bullied either in or on their way to/from school, and 7% being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property.

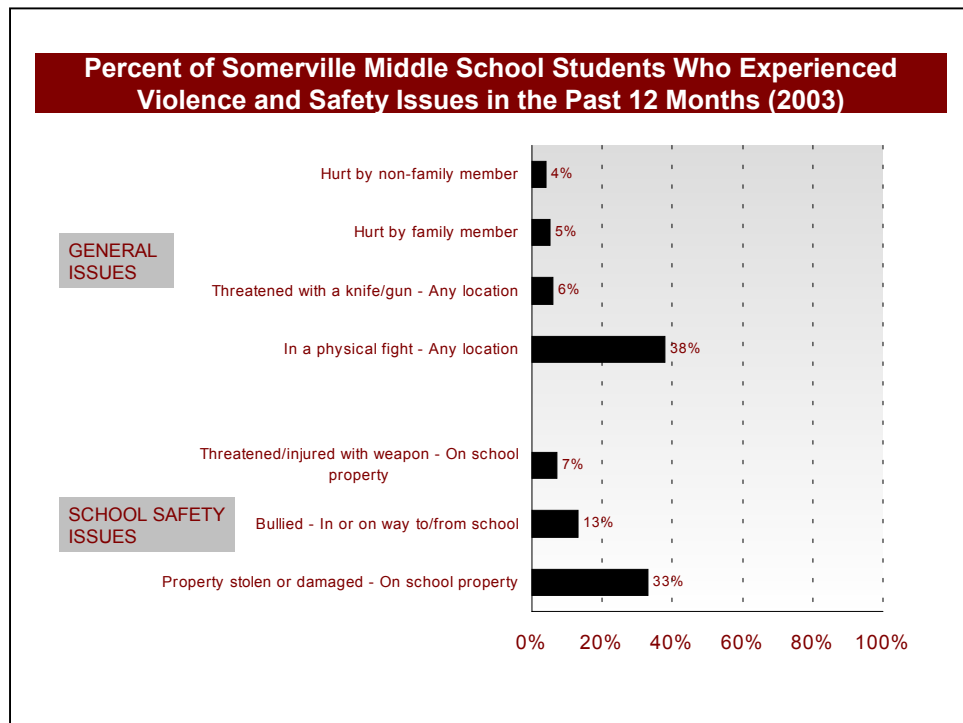


Figure 14

WORRY AND SUICIDALITY

ISSUES THAT CAUSE WORRY

To examine stressors among middle school students, respondents were asked whether they worried about a number of issues during the 12 months prior to the survey. Figure 15 demonstrates that the issues students reported worrying about most often were school failure or poor grades (46%), weight problems (43%), depression (28%), and physical health problems (28%). Figure 16 shows some notable differences by gender. While males were only slightly more likely to report worrying about issues related to physical fighting, females were much more likely to report worrying about most other issues, particularly weight problems (55% females vs. 32% males), depression (37% vs. 19%), physical health problems (31% vs. 24%), and sexual abuse (9% vs. 5%). Interestingly, there was no difference by gender in the proportion of students who reported worrying about school failure or poor grades.

SELF-HARM AND SUICIAL IDEATION AND BEHAVIOR

One in ten respondents (10%) reported that they had hurt themselves on purpose in the 12 months prior to the survey. On three suicide-related items, 14% of students reported that they had *seriously considered* killing themselves in the past 12 months, 8% had *planned* to kill themselves, and 4% had *actually attempted* suicide (see Figure 17). A larger percentage of females than males reported each of these issues (see Figure 18), and the percentage increased by age/grade, peaking in 8th grade with 12% of respondents reporting hurting themselves on purpose, 19% seriously considering suicide, 9% planning suicide, and 6% attempting suicide (see Figure 19).

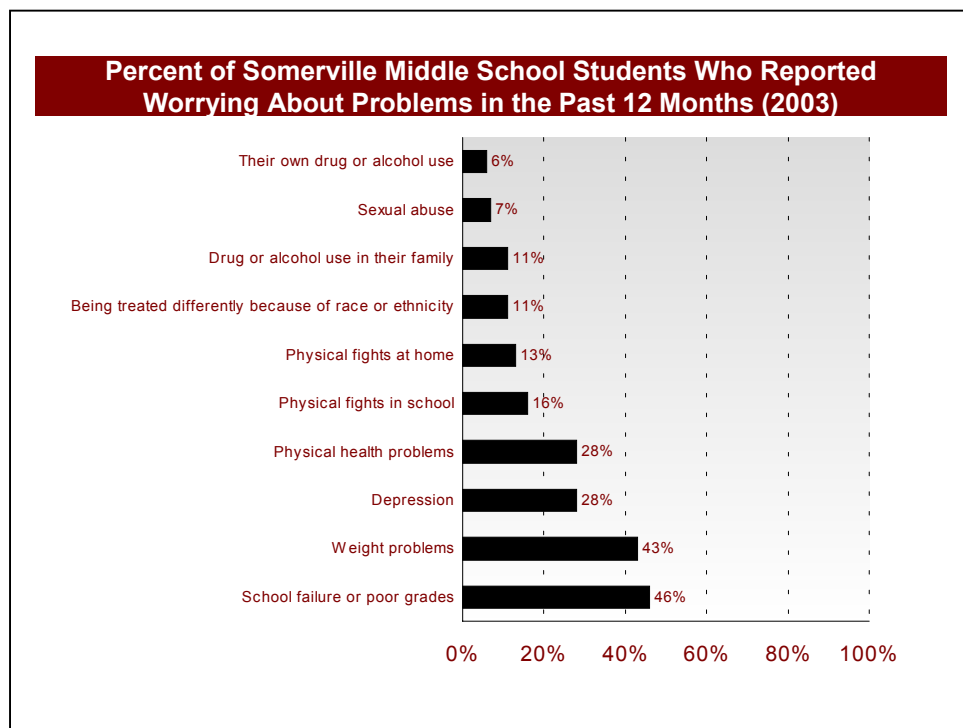


Figure 15

Percent of Somerville Middle School Students Who Reported Worrying About Problems in the Past 12 Months, by Gender (2003)

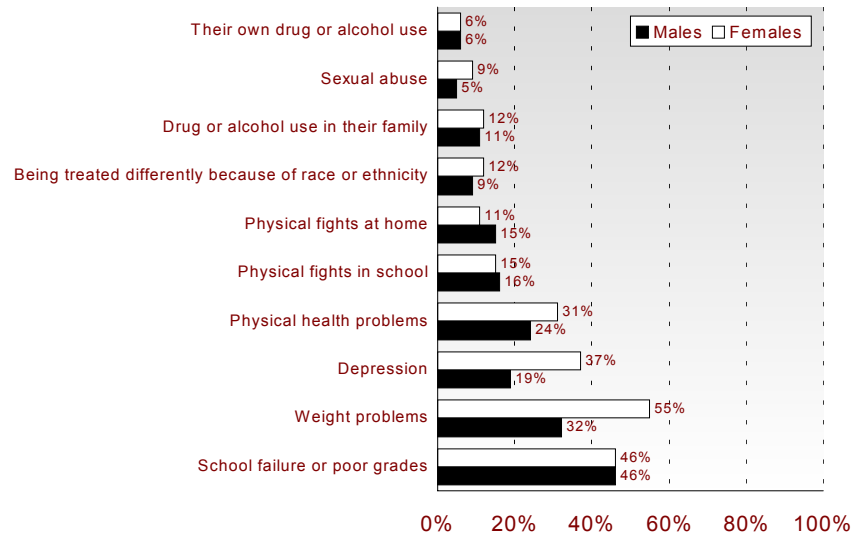


Figure 16

Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation and Behavior in the Past 12 Months Among Somerville Middle School Students (2003)

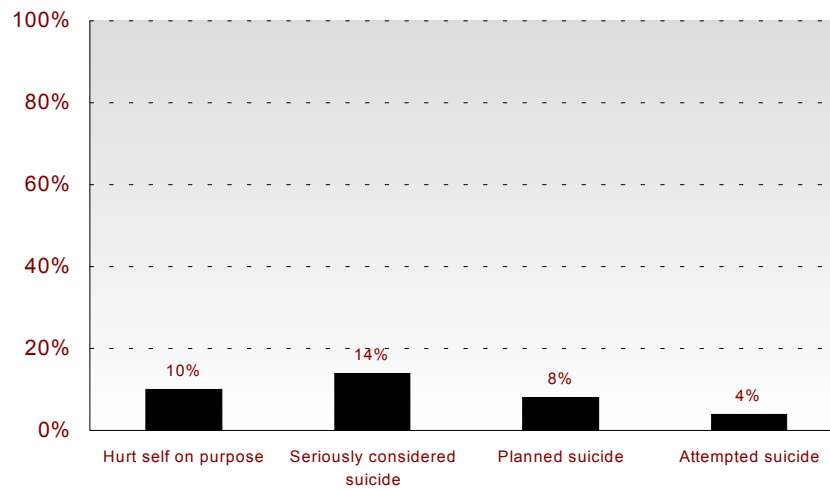


Figure 17

**Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation and Behavior in the Past 12 Months
Among Somerville Middle School Students, by Gender (2003)**

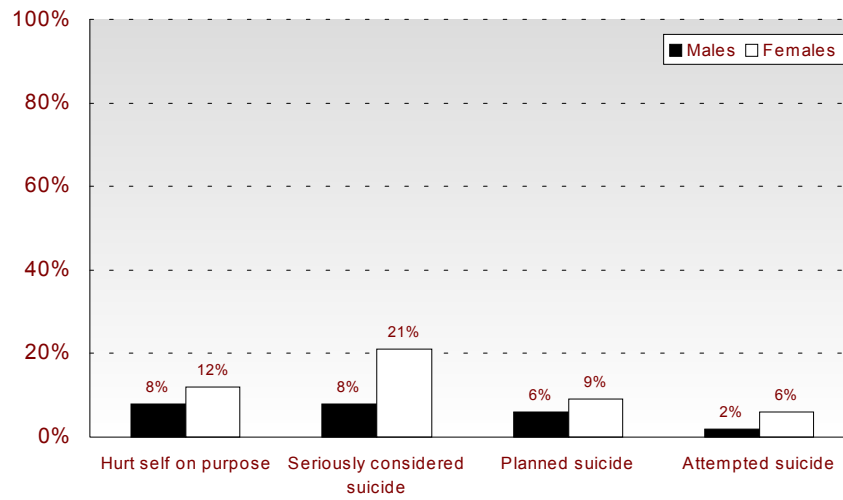


Figure 18

**Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation and Behavior in the Past 12 Months
Among Somerville Middle School Students, by Grade (2003)**

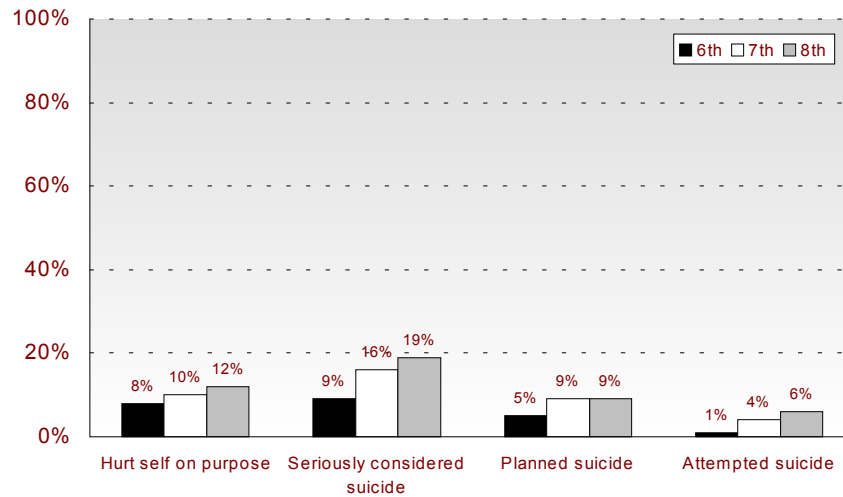


Figure 19

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AND HARASSMENT

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

A total of 14% of Somerville middle school students reported that they had ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime. This figure increased from 6% in grade 6 to 14% in grade 7 and 20% in grade 8 (see Figure 20).

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ASSAULT

As Figure 21 illustrates, 15% of Somerville middle school students reported that they *had rude sexual comments directed at them* during the 12 months prior to the survey. Eight percent (8%) reported that they were *touched, pinched, grabbed, or patted in a sexual way against their will* and 3% were *forced, tricked, or pressured to have sex that they did not want*. It is important to note that these questions were global in nature and were not specific to school experiences.

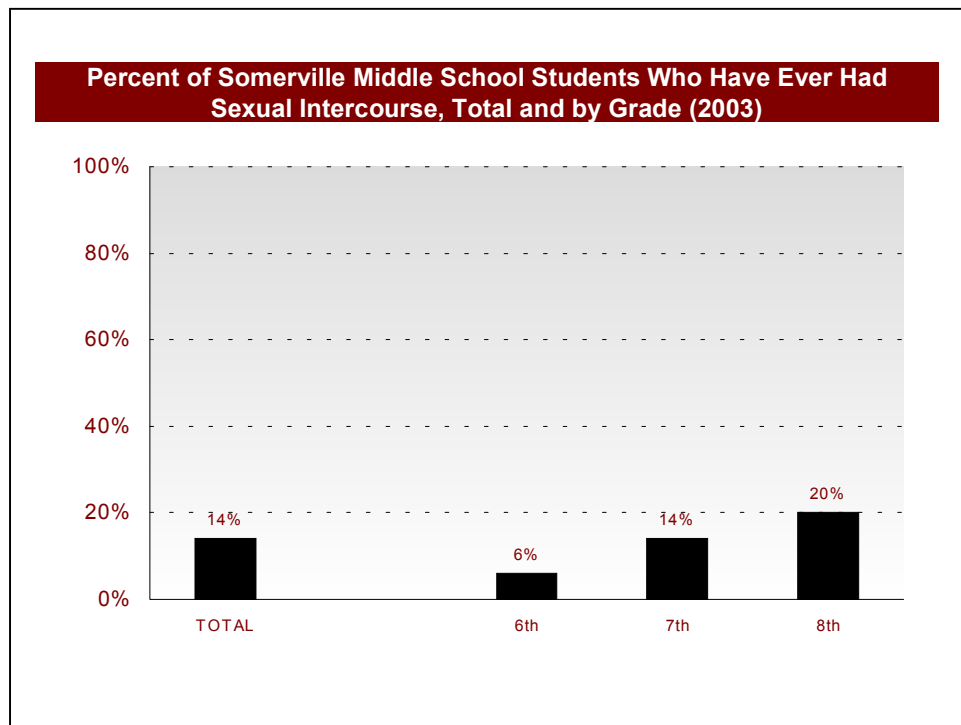


Figure 20

Percent of Somerville Middle School Students Who Experienced Sexual Harassment or Assault in the Past 12 Months (2003)

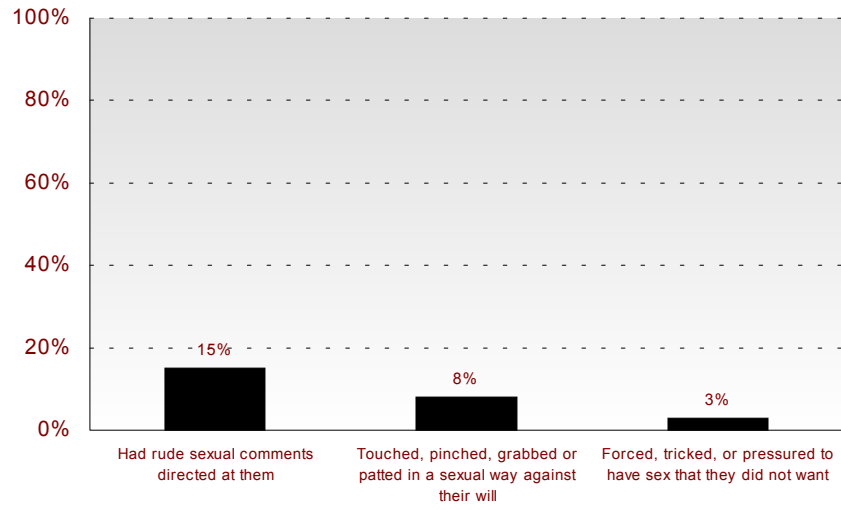


Figure 21

Appendix A:

Selected Data Tables

2002-2003 SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

| | TOTAL | GENDER | | GRADE | | | MTF ¹ |
|---|--------|--------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | 2003 | Males | Females | 6 th | 7 th | 8 th | 8 th |
| | (1098) | (574) | (518) | (361) | (389) | (336) | |
| LIFETIME USE (use in lifetime) | | | | | | | |
| Regular cigarette smoking (at least one cigarette every day for 30 days) | 8.7% | 6.9% | 10.7% | 3.7% | 10.4% | 11.1% | N/A |
| Alcohol (other than a few sips) | 30.1% | 29.9% | 30.3% | 17.1% | 27.8% | 45.5% | 47.0% |
| Any drugs (cocaine, marijuana, LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin) | 10.3% | 11.6% | 8.9% | 2.2% | 9.8% | 19.2% | 24.6% |
| Steroids (without a prescription) | 3.9% | 3.7% | 3.9% | 3.7% | 4.4% | 3.6% | 2.5% |
| ANNUAL USE (use in past 12 months) | | | | | | | |
| Alcohol | 29.8% | 28.7% | 31.0% | 18.4% | 28.4% | 42.6% | 38.7% |
| Marijuana | 9.0% | 10.3% | 7.6% | 2.0% | 7.0% | 18.4% | 14.6% |
| Cocaine | 2.0% | 2.6% | 1.4% | 0.3% | 2.6% | 3.0% | 2.3% |
| Other illegal drugs (LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin) | 1.8% | 2.3% | 1.4% | 0.0% | 1.5% | 4.2% | N/A |
| Inhalants | 8.3% | 7.6% | 9.2% | 6.4% | 12.4% | 5.8% | 7.7% |
| CURRENT USE (use in past 30 days) | | | | | | | |
| Cigarettes | 4.7% | 3.4% | 6.1% | 1.4% | 5.2% | 7.0% | 10.7% |
| Chewing tobacco | 0.7% | 1.1% | 0.4% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.9% | 3.3% |
| Alcohol | 15.2% | 12.8% | 18.0% | 7.9% | 13.7% | 24.6% | 19.6% |
| Marijuana | 6.2% | 7.2% | 5.0% | 1.4% | 4.7% | 12.6% | 8.3% |
| Cocaine | 1.2% | 1.8% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 1.3% | 1.5% | 1.1% |
| Other illegal drugs (LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin) | 1.6% | 1.9% | 1.2% | 0.3% | 1.5% | 2.7% | N/A |
| Inhalants | 6.3% | 6.2% | 6.6% | 4.8% | 9.6% | 4.5% | 3.8% |

¹ Data from the 2002 *Monitoring the Future* Survey administered by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

2002-2003 SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY

Substance Use-Related Issues

| | TOTAL 2003 (1098) | GENDER Males Females (574) (518) | | GRADE 6 th 7 th 8 th (361) (389) (336) | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|-------|---|-------|-------|
| PERCEPTION OF FRIENDS' DISAPPROVAL - Percent of respondents who indicated that their <i>friends</i> would "Not Approve" if they... | | | | | | |
| Smoked cigarettes occasionally | 72.3% | 72.4% | 72.0% | 82.1% | 71.0% | 63.8% |
| Smoked cigarettes regularly | 82.4% | 81.2% | 83.5% | 86.4% | 82.4% | 78.2% |
| Drank alcohol occasionally | 63.3% | 64.1% | 62.1% | 77.2% | 62.1% | 50.2% |
| Drank alcohol regularly | 78.8% | 77.2% | 80.3% | 85.3% | 79.5% | 71.1% |
| Tried marijuana | 74.0% | 71.1% | 76.8% | 85.1% | 76.8% | 59.2% |
| Smoked marijuana occasionally | 79.4% | 77.2% | 81.6% | 87.3% | 82.0% | 68.3% |
| Smoked marijuana regularly | 82.0% | 79.2% | 84.9% | 88.1% | 84.4% | 72.8% |
| PERCEPTION OF PARENTS' DISAPPROVAL - Percent of respondents who indicated that their <i>parents</i> would be "Very Upset" if they... | | | | | | |
| Smoked cigarettes occasionally | 83.6% | 83.5% | 83.9% | 87.4% | 84.7% | 78.7% |
| Smoked cigarettes regularly | 87.0% | 86.9% | 87.3% | 88.6% | 87.1% | 85.3% |
| Drank alcohol occasionally | 77.1% | 77.1% | 77.5% | 83.1% | 77.2% | 71.3% |
| Drank alcohol regularly | 86.0% | 85.5% | 86.7% | 88.3% | 85.0% | 84.8% |
| Tried marijuana | 84.6% | 84.4% | 85.1% | 89.1% | 84.7% | 79.9% |
| Smoked marijuana occasionally | 88.2% | 87.8% | 88.8% | 90.3% | 87.3% | 87.2% |
| Smoked marijuana regularly | 88.9% | 88.7% | 89.3% | 90.3% | 87.4% | 89.4% |
| RECEIVED INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOL | | | | | | |
| On the risks involved with smoking and other tobacco use | 71.4% | 69.6% | 73.6% | 71.0% | 68.5% | 76.3% |
| On the risks involved with drinking alcohol | 74.1% | 70.3% | 78.4% | 70.3% | 74.3% | 78.8% |
| On the risks involved with drug use | 75.9% | 73.5% | 78.8% | 69.1% | 78.0% | 82.0% |
| On handling peer pressure, including pressure to smoke, drink, or take drugs | 69.8% | 67.9% | 72.2% | 64.3% | 69.5% | 76.7% |
| EVER TALKED WITH PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY ADULTS | | | | | | |
| About the risks involved with smoking or other tobacco use | 57.6% | 54.9% | 61.0% | 59.8% | 59.7% | 54.1% |
| About the risks involved with drug use | 54.1% | 52.0% | 56.4% | 52.1% | 53.6% | 57.0% |

2002-2003 SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY
Violence and Safety

| | TOTAL 2003 (1098) | GENDER | | GRADE | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | Males (574) | Females (518) | 6th (361) | 7th (389) | 8th (336) |
| PHYSICAL VIOLENCE | | | | | | |
| In a physical fight - any location (past 12 months) | 38.0% | 46.4% | 29.1% | 36.2% | 38.0% | 39.8% |
| Beaten or physically hurt by someone in family (past 12 months) | 4.9% | 5.1% | 4.8% | 4.9% | 4.0% | 6.1% |
| Beaten or physically hurt by someone not a family member (past 12 months) | 3.8% | 4.9% | 2.6% | 3.2% | 4.5% | 3.7% |
| WEAPONS | | | | | | |
| Carried a weapon - any location (past 30 days) | 7.5% | 10.1% | 4.7% | 2.8% | 9.4% | 9.3% |
| Threatened with a knife or gun - any location (past 12 months) | 5.5% | 7.4% | 3.4% | 2.6% | 5.3% | 8.6% |
| Threatened or injured with a weapon - on school property (past 12 months) | 6.8% | 8.8% | 4.5% | 5.4% | 4.7% | 10.2% |
| SCHOOL SAFETY ISSUES | | | | | | |
| Property stolen or deliberately damaged - on school property (past 12 months) | 32.9% | 32.2% | 33.9% | 28.5% | 34.7% | 36.1% |
| Bullied, threatened, or pushed around in/on the way to school (past 12 months) | 13.2% | 15.2% | 10.9% | 16.2% | 12.5% | 11.3% |
| Stayed home from school out of fear for safety (past 30 days) | 7.8% | 7.1% | 8.8% | 8.4% | 8.1% | 7.2% |
| RECEIVED INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOL | | | | | | |
| About how to resolve disputes without fighting | 64.7% | 63.8% | 65.9% | 67.1% | 65.9% | 61.3% |

2002-2003 SOMERVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY
Miscellaneous

| | TOTAL 2003 (1098) | GENDER Males Females (574) (518) | | GRADE 6 th 7 th 8 th (361) (389) (336) | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|-------|---|-------|-------|
| WORRIED ABOUT PROBLEMS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS | | | | | | |
| Physical health problems | 27.5% | 24.2% | 31.1% | 25.4% | 30.2% | 26.7% |
| Weight problems | 43.2% | 32.3% | 55.1% | 40.5% | 45.4% | 42.9% |
| Sexual abuse | 6.7% | 4.7% | 9.0% | 7.5% | 6.3% | 6.6% |
| Depression | 27.8% | 19.4% | 37.0% | 27.1% | 28.1% | 29.0% |
| School failure or poor grades | 45.8% | 45.5% | 46.3% | 36.8% | 50.9% | 49.5% |
| Drug or alcohol use in your family | 11.3% | 10.5% | 12.2% | 13.5% | 9.6% | 11.3% |
| Your own drug or alcohol use | 5.7% | 5.9% | 5.5% | 3.9% | 5.4% | 8.0% |
| Physical fights at home | 13.0% | 14.6% | 11.4% | 13.8% | 11.4% | 14.3% |
| Physical fights in school | 15.7% | 15.9% | 15.4% | 17.7% | 16.6% | 13.7% |
| Being treated differently because of your race or ethnicity | 10.5% | 9.3% | 12.0% | 10.2% | 10.3% | 11.5% |
| HURTING ONESELF AND SUICIDE | | | | | | |
| Hurt self on purpose (past 12 months) | 9.7% | 7.8% | 12.0% | 7.6% | 9.8% | 12.3% |
| Seriously considered suicide (past 12 months) | 14.2% | 8.0% | 21.2% | 9.0% | 15.6% | 18.7% |
| Made a plan to commit suicide (past 12 months) | 7.5% | 6.2% | 9.0% | 4.9% | 8.8% | 8.9% |
| Actually attempted suicide (past 12 months) | 3.7% | 1.8% | 5.8% | 1.4% | 4.3% | 5.6% |
| SEXUAL BEHAVIOR | | | | | | |
| Ever had sexual intercourse | 13.5% | 18.0% | 8.4% | 5.9% | 14.1% | 19.8% |